

Beloved Adhyapya:

I presume it is with mixed impressions that you have read over the lesson of the past week - I do not wish to be charged with having revived the superstitions of the middle ages, but if I am I must put forth the counter-claim that there could not be so much smoke without some fire and that these so-called superstitions may repay examination in the light of recent discoveries concerning the Psychology of subconsciousness. Whoever is familiar with the literature of Psychic Research, abnormal psychology and the baser aspects of that movement which took its rise from the inspiration of Christian Science and spread into a hundred uncontrolled cults, cannot fail to be struck by the fact that the old superstitions were getting the same results that we meet today in all these different fields of thought and these different movements. It has also been said that History repeats itself and at the present time we are seeing a great revival of interest in psychic and occult subjects. So let us approach the subject of Occult and Psychic attack in its modern phases neither in a spirit of incredulity nor superstition but from the standpoint of the Mystic, seeking to understand the workings of these things and the proper defense against many things which have heretofore passed unsuspected except by the Initiate.

There are of course two types of practical psychic work which may be used separately or in combination, the later method, which is the new method these lessons are giving you, will give you a stronger and quicker help than the first, which is the one you have been taught to use thus far.

The methods you have been using, unconscious perhaps of their purpose as a defense is the meditative method and consists of meditation upon abstract qualities such as Peace, Harmony and the Love of the Father. Its value lies in the harmonizing effect it has upon the emotional state and its counteracting of harmful auto-suggestions. This new method is called the Invocative and consists in the invocation of external potencies and the employment of formal methods for the focusing of their Forces.

This method has many gradations of complexity and an infinit variety of technique. It ranges from the simplest prayer which calls upon the Christ Force with the Sign of the Cross to the most elaborate ritual performed with bell, book and candle. The essence of the system lies in the attempt to dissect out of the general force the particular aspect of energy that is needed and the use of the symbol to act as the ~~Magical~~ Vehicle of that Force upon the Plane of Form. This symbol may be the action of making the Sign of the Cross, it may be the sprinkling of the consecrated water as a token of cleansing or it may be some object specially magnetized to act as a talisman. In the Invocative methods the aim is to concentrate the Force, and therefore some symbol has to be employed. In the meditative method the aim is to escape beyond the bounds of form into the pure atmosphere of Spirit, too exalted for Evil to enter and therefore no form or formula is used, for it would prevent the Soul rising into this pure atmosphere. I want you to realize that the use of forms and symbols is merely a psychological device to enable the mind to get a grip upon the intangible and when you study what I have just said you will realize it, and you will not fall into any error of mere superstitious observance.

Superstition is defined as the blind use of a form whose significance has been forgotten.

On the other hand I do not want you to rely entirely upon the new methods and I do want you to continue to use and perfect the Meditative Methods in order to purify and harmonize your own Consciousness. If this purification is neglected one soon re-infects by their own vibrations, the magic circle as soon as they have cleared it. It is no much use to seal the circle with the protective Names if one allows a panic stricken imagination to run riot, picturing every kind of evil. Equally you will find a wonderful power if you perform your meditative work within the Magic Circle and its protection. So while you practice the building of the circle, have it formed as you stand in front of your meditation chair, and after you have created this circle, sealed it with the Names of Power and thus cleared it of evil, sit down and relax, going thru one of your meditative formulae, practicing the mental work, or merely watching quietly for whatever may come to you -- you will notice a great difference in the vibrations as you work within the cleared circle and it affords a condition wherein you may establish higher contacts than you may have been able to heretofore.

Now the next formula of Protection concerns attacks from blind forces but nevertheless living ones of the Inner Planes which we know as Electrical-Bacteriological forms of Life and with which one consciously or unconsciously sometimes comes into rapport. Remember that any act performed with intention, becomes a rite. We can take a bath with no more in mind than physical cleanliness in which case the bath will cleanse our bodies and no more. Or we can take a bath with a view to ritual cleansing in which case its efficacy will extend beyond the physical plane. We perform certain acts physically not only as a means of clearing etheric conditions but as a means of definitely affecting astral ones thru the imagination, which is a very potent weapon in all magical operations.

After all, we have very little knowledge of those subtle forces which are the basis of both occult attack and spiritual healing. They have in their nature something akin to life, tho of a low type and if you think of them as combining the qualities of both electricity and bacteria you will understand them better. Water has peculiar qualities as you know, if you have seen its effect upon a divining rod in the hands of a sensitive person. Water also throws hounds off the scent and water is a vehicle of purification used alike by the church and by the occultist to clear a place when he is about to work or perform a ceremony.

Now for the formula for Consecrated Water. Prepare yourself therefore with a teacupful of fresh, spring, clear water, in an earthen vessel or china dish, and a tablespoonful of salt in another vessel. As far as the Occultist is concerned, salt to him is the Emblem of Earth; it is also a crystalline substance, and crystalline substances in different forms, receive and hold Etheric Magnetism better than anything else, while water on the other hand, is the Emblem of the Psychic Sphere. The two Realms between them contain by far the greater part of Occult Evil, for it is very rare indeed that Spiritual Wickedness in High Places will reach up as far as the Airy Realms of Mind, or the Fiery Realms of Spirit.

At any rate prepare yourself by having the articles in the vessels, as stated. Use the following prayer for the blessing of the salt and water. (Pointing the first and second fingers at the salt). "I exorcise Thee, Creature of Earth, by the Living God, (S.C.) by the Omnipotent God, (S.C.) by the Holy God, (S.C.) that Thou mayest be purified of all Evil Influences in the Name of Adonai, who is Lord of Angels and of Men."

(Extending the hand over the salt) "Creature of Earth, adore

Thy Creator in the Name of God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth, and of Jesus Christ, His Son our Saviour, I consecrate thee (S.C.) to the Service of God, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, Amen."

(Pointing the first and second fingers at the water) "I exorcise Thee Creature of Water by the Living God, (S.C.) by the Holy God, (S.C.) by the Omnipotent God, (S.C.) that Thou mayest be purified of all Evil Influences in the Name of Elohim Sabbaoth, who is Lord of Angels and of men."

(Extending the hand over the water) "Creature of Water adore Thy Creator in the Name of God, the Father Almighty, who decreed a Firmament in the Midst of the Waters, and of Jesus Christ, His Son, our Saviour, I consecrate Thee (S.C.) to the Service of God, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, Amen."

(Casting the salt into the water) "We pray Thee, oh God, Lord of Heaven and Earth, and of all that in them is, both visible and invisible, that Thou mayest extend forth the right hand of Thy Power upon these Creatures of the Element, and hallow them in Thy Holy Name; grant that this salt may make for health in body, and this water for health in Soul and that there may be banished from the place where they are used, every power of adversity, and every illusion and artifice of Evil, in the name of Christ Jesus, our Saviour, Amen."

And now after you have consecrated the water, it may be used for sprinkling around, and when using it you may use the following prayer: "In the Name which is above every other Name, and in the Power of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, I exorcise all influences that lead to evil, and I lay upon them the spell of Christ's Holy Church that they may be bound fast in chains and cast in outer darkness, that they trouble not the Servants of God."

Now remember that in making the Sign of the Cross (S.C.) the first and second fingers of the right hand are extended, and the third and fourth are bent toward the palm of the hand, with the thumb laid across their nails as far as possible. When the hand is extended in blessing over the salt and water the right hand is flat, fingers together, and parallel, and the thumb extended at right angle to the fore-finger.

After you have prepared the Consecrated Water, place it in a clean bottle, corked and placed in or near your Shrine in your Sanctum. Use it at any time to sprinkle about any room or the Sanctum. Or the Water may be used in the Bath, or for making the Sign of the Cross upon the forehead. Whenever used the Prayer given for its use must be said.

Remember in performing any Occult Formula to speak firmly and commandingly.

In connection with this Ritual I want you to realize that it has nothing whatever to do with the Orthodox Church,--the Occultist as a Magus of Power, holds the Keys to all doorways which give entrance to those Corridors built up thru the Ages, leading to the Inner Planes, and the Forces and Powers available there. He selects whichever Key and whichever Doorway may be most convenient to his purpose, and he recognizes the vast Potencies and Hierarchies assembled on the Inner Planes, under the Group Heading of Christianity and frequently uses the Key to that Doorway, rather than one of the older Religions, but as I said before it all depends upon the Ceremony used, and the purpose desired.

In the Bonds of the Eternal Brotherhood.